

AMENDMENT

It is respectfully requested that the claims be amended without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) A cell-matrix structure ~~for implantation into a patient~~ having comprising a polymeric matrix and cells attached thereto in an effective amount sufficient ~~of cells stably expressing a gene encoding at least one biological modifier to stop or regress~~ excessive abnormal cell or tissue proliferation in a patient in need thereof, growth wherein the cells are either genetically engineered to ~~produce the biological modifier or of a different cell~~ type than the tissue that has proliferated excessively stably express Mullerian Inhibiting Substance (MIS).

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) The cell-matrix structure of claim 24 wherein the matrix is selected from the group consisting of fibrous scaffolds, polymeric hydrogels, and micromachine or micromolded substrates.

27. (Currently Amended) The cell-matrix structure of claim 24 wherein the abnormal cells or tissue growth ~~are selected from the group consisting of tissue specific cells, progenitor cells, and stem cells~~ is vulvar epidermoid carcinoma, cervical carcinoma, endometrial adenocarcinoma, ovarian adenocarcinoma, or a breast tumor.

28. (Currently Amended) The cell-matrix structure of claim 24 wherein the cells that have been ~~are genetically engineered to produce the biological modifier~~ are of a different cell type than the abnormal cell or tissue.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) The cell-matrix structure of claim 27 wherein the ~~cell-matrix structure is implanted into a patient with a disorder selected from the group consisting of vulvar epidermoid carcinomas, cervical carcinomas, endometrial adenocarcinomas, abnormal cell or tissue growth is~~ ovarian adenocarcinomas, ~~ocular melanomas, prostate, lymphoid, breast, cutaneous, and germ cell tumors.~~

33. (Currently Amended) The cell-matrix structure of claim 24 wherein the cells are genetically engineered to express ~~the biological modifier~~ Mullerian Inhibiting Substance (MIS) from recombinant DNA encoding ~~the biological modifier~~ Mullerian Inhibiting Substance (MIS).

34. (Currently Amended) The cell-matrix structure of claim 24 wherein the cells are selected based on natural production of ~~the biological modifier~~ Mullerian Inhibiting Substance (MIS) and the cells are implanted at a site where ~~the biological modifier~~ secreted Mullerian Inhibiting Substance (MIS) can stop ~~proliferation abnormal cell~~ or ~~cause tissue regression~~ growth.

35. (New) The cell-matrix structure of claim 24 wherein the matrix comprises a biodegradable polymer of polyglycolic acid.